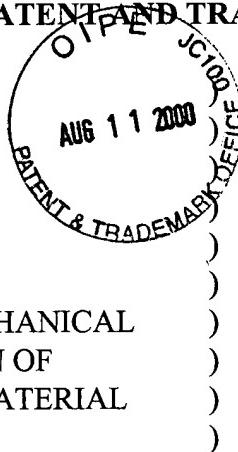


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Stephen L. Willis
 Appl. No. : 09/552,383
 Filed : April 19, 2000
 For : CHEMICAL MECHANICAL
 PLANARIZATION OF
 CONDUCTIVE MATERIAL



Group Art Unit Unknown

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

August 7, 2000
 (Date)

Michael H. Trenholm, Reg. No. 37,743

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-captioned application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

After the title and before the section entitled "Background Information" please add This
application is a continuation-in-part application of U.S. Application No. 09/309,460, filed
May 11, 1999, entitled CHEMICAL MECHANICAL PLANARIZATION OF CONDUCTIVE
MATERIAL.

Please charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 11-1410. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,
 KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

By: _____

Michael H. Trenholm
 Registration No. 37,743
 Attorney of Record
 620 Newport Center Drive
 Sixteenth Floor
 Newport Beach, CA 92660
 (909) 781-9231

Dated: 8/3/00

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